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February 1, 2002

The Honorable Michael Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Approval of Ultra-Wideband Technology Deployment (ET Docket No. 98-153)

Dear Chairman Powell:

The Information Technology Industry Council (ITI) is the association of leading information technology companies in the United States. ITI members share an interest in exploring the practical applications of ultra-wideband (UWB) technology for their products, which could provide major advances in low-cost, high-speed wireless data communications for personal area networks and other areas of innovation. I am writing to you regarding the Commission's consideration of a rule permitting commercial deployment of UWB.

We appreciate the importance of a thorough consideration of all parties' views, which is now taking place. However, we are concerned that any additional delay would be a substantial setback to the timely development and deployment of UWB devices and services and could stall current momentum for building what could potentially be a vibrant new U.S.-based technology industry.

This proceeding is more than three years old with more than 800 comments, notices, and technical studies in the docket. Interested parties have filed detailed technical analyses, and ITI is confident these include enough technical information for the Commission, in consultation with the Department of Commerce, to make a well-informed decision on how UWB devices shall use the spectrum in a commercially viable manner, while also protecting existing services.

The prompt adoption of technically and commercially viable rules is necessary to bring the benefits of this technology to consumers and potential customers within the U.S.

government. We urge you to support the prompt issuance of the UWB report and order allowing the introduction of UWB technology. Expeditious completion of this rulemaking process to permit commercial deployment of UWB is in the best interest of consumers, industry and the U.S. economy.

Best Regards,

Rhett Dawson
President

cc: Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Kevin Martin
Mr. William Caton, Acting Secretary (for inclusion in ET Docket No. 98-153)